

## Sisters' Department.

## WORK.

Yes, it pays us to work for Jesus, and it pays us to give our hearts to him while we are young, before the evil day cometh. When we are young we do not have so far to go back to our Father's house, and it requires but a gentle call to bring us into the fold of Christ; but when we are out in the cold world until we become old and hardened in sin, it requires a great deal of preaching, and pleading, and praying to bring us under conviction, and oft times it seems impossible. We read in God's word that the spirit of God will not always strive with man. Oh, then, how very necessary it is for us to accept his loving call, before it is forever too late. How sad it is to see one called from time to eternity, who has come to years of accountability, and has not given his or her heart to Jesus. How such wish they could retrace their steps. How different they would try to live.

Oh let us all, by the help of God, try to win souls for Christ. Let us bring our children up in the right way, so they may early come to Christ. Let us not neglect to read and pray with our children, and tell them of the love of Jesus, and create within them a desire to hear more and more of his holy word.

There are so many parents who never talk of Jesus to their children, and never pray with them, and very often the result is they are ashamed to accept him when they become men and women, even if they do feel the Spirit of God striving within their souls.

What time, labor and money we spend to educate our children, but how much time, labor and money do we spend to educate them in a spiritual sense. Brethren and sisters, let us become more interested in our future happiness. Let us strive to do more for our blessed Master in the future than we have done in the past. The Lord is ready and willing to help at all times, when we are willing to work for him. He will abundantly bless us in our efforts, if we will but trust him and obey his holy word.

ALICE GRUBB.

North Liberty, Ohio.

From Warsaw, Ind

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ; It is by the grace of God I write for the EVANGELIST this afternoon, in answer to the kind letters I received through the welcome EVANGELIST, giving us an account of the work going on in the brotherhood.

By the grace of God, if we are regenerated, grounded and built up in the Holy Ghost, and in all these things, we are more than conquerors. "Through him that loved us, for I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." We must not think we stand in the Lord, but we must know we are in Christ in this world. To know we are in Christ, we must be born of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter that Christ told his apostles of, while he was on earth, whom he would send them after he ascended to heaven. When we get that kind of experience we will know we are the children of Christ. When I go to Warsaw and get mail, I know I have what I asked for. I do not think so, but I know I have my mail. And it is so with the sinner, when he goes to God in faith and asks God to make him a new man in Christ. He is a new man, he walks in newness of life, praising God and keeping God's commandments. He will not serve God and mammon both.

MATILDA SCHROCK.

Warsaw, Ind.

## The Sacredness of the Marriage Rite.

The first step toward making the ideal the real is to educate our sons and daughters into the most exalted ideas of the sacredness of married life and the responsibilities of parenthood. I would have them give at least as much thought to the creation of an immortal being as the artist gives to his landscape or statue. Watch him in his hours of solitude, communing with great nature for days and weeks in all her changing moods, and when at last his dream of beauty is realized and takes a clearly defined form, behold how patiently he works through long months and years on sky and lake, on tree and flower, and when complete, it represents to him more love and life, more hope and ambition than the living child at his side, to whose conception and antenatal development not one soulful thought was ever given. To this impressive period of human life few parents give any thought: yet here we must begin to cultivate the virtues that can alone redeem the world.

How oblivious even our greatest philosophers seem to the well-known laws of physiology. Think of a man like Darwin, so close an observer of every form of life, so firm a believer in the laws of heredity, venturing on marriage and fatherhood while he was the victim of an incurable and hereditary disease. That he thought of this while raising a large family is plain from his published letters, in which he deplores his condition and groans lest his physical afflictions be visited on his children. Alas! who can measure the miseries of the race resulting from the impure and unholy marriages into which even intelligent men and women so recklessly enter.—Elizabeth Cady Stanton in *Arena* for April.

## A Big Job of Printing.

The largest order for printing ever given in the world was a requisition made upon the public printer by the census bureau in February last for 20,000,000 enumeration blanks, and it has been filled. The paper required to print these blanks amounted to 11,458 reams of 480 sheets to the ream, and measured 22 by 30 inches. If it were possible to stack these blanks in one pile it would be 6,510 feet high, which is equal to one and one-fourth miles. This paper would cover 2,528,333 feet and its total weight was over 229 tons. The government printing office, which is the largest institution of its kind in the world, and the only one in which this order could have been filled, began work on the job March 3, and has just delivered the last of the sheets to the census bureau. While this was being done the public printer also delivered 5,000,000 other blanks of various sizes and forms to the census bureau and 15,000,000 miscellaneous blanks for other departments of the government, besides 2,555,642 copies of reports, documents, bills, and so forth for congress, not including the Congressional Record and 172,881 volumes of reports for other departments of the government. The twine used in tying the census blanks in bundles weighed over half a ton.—*Chicago Daily News*.

## The Church and Amusements.

Mr. Greenhough, of Leicester, one of the most robust and liberal thinkers in the Baptist pulpit, has arrived at the conclusion that the church ought to have as little as possible to do with the providing of what are called amusements. Referring to his own denomination, he said their history had been one prolonged witness against the secularization of the church—an incessant endeavor to keep it separate from the frivolities and lighter thoughts of each passing generation, and to concentrate its energies on purely religious objects. The one business of the church is to cultivate the religious faculty of men. Its work is not moral in the first place, but religious—religious preeminently, moral only by consequence. Their final aim ought to be, not to get their church buildings filled, but to get the many or the few who come imbued with religious principles. Mr. Greenhough's experience is either that the more solid and religious things are entirely neglected when games are provided, or two entirely different classes of young people support the one and the other respectively. He is convinced that the lighter things when carried on as part of the church work, tend to lower and secularize the whole atmosphere of a church.

A boy about nine years old was bathing one day when, by some mischance, he got into deep water and began to sink. His elder brother saw him and ran to save him, but, lacking strength or skill, he also sank to the bottom of the river. As the two drowning brothers rose to the surface for the last time they saw a brother, the youngest of the family, running down the bank for the purpose of trying to save them. Then it was that the dying nine-year-old boy acted the part of a hero. Struggling as he was with death, he gathered all his strength, and cried to his brother on shore, "Don't come in or father will lose all his boys at once!" Noble little fellow! Though dying, he forgot himself and thought only of his father's grief. He was a genuine hero. His brother obeyed his dying command, and was spared to comfort his father, when his two dead sons were taken from the river clasped in each other's arms. Boys, you are not called to be heroes in this way, but you are called to consider the feelings of your parents, and to study how to avoid giving them pain. Blessed are those children whose words and deeds make sweet music in their parent's soul.—*Examiner*.

A produce dealer in Philadelphia named John Walters began about six months ago to save money for the enlargement of his business. When the

New Year arrived he had more than \$1,000 to his credit in one of the city banks. He drew the money and went off on a spree which lasted until he was arrested on Sabbath, the 26th ult. During all this time he never went near his wife and family who were left in great destitution. The magistrate sent him to the House of Correction and gave the \$68 which was found in his pockets to his wife. This was all that remained of the six months' accumulations. This is an illustration of what is going on on a smaller scale continually in thousands of families. Yet the human harpies who thrive on the ruin of homes and filch away the wages and the savings of the people, giving them nothing of value in exchange, are under the sanction and protection of the law. Prohibition proposes to reverse the attitude of the law to this business, so that it shall forbid and suppress what now it sanctions and upholds.—*Christian Statesman*.

## My Strength.

Be our days many, or be they few, from any burden which God may see fit to lay upon us our life may gain not only contentment but grandeur and nobleness.

My strength during all my life has been precisely this—that I have no choice. During the last thirty-six years God has twelve times changed my home and fifteen times changed my work. I have scarcely done what I myself would have chosen. The support of my life is to know that I am doing what God wishes, and not what I wish myself. My brethren, the best thing often which could happen to a man is to be thwarted in his favorite hopes. The old song sings the hope that in time of old age we may find one face at our fireside whom we loved when we were young; but I would say: Far rather than this—God grant that we may find Him there in the home of our darkened life. Then all else will seem to us to be but dross. When a man has nothing more to lose, when his hopes are all beyond the grave, when we listen without terror to the ebbings and flowings of the tide of life and the rush of its storms—then, after the night, to us the day will come back, and after the tempest a great calm. We know then that it is God's work, and that God loves us better than we can love ourselves. We know then that all our life is guided by Him, so that we find consolation and contentment; and if we have those two things with us—consolation in all sorrows and contentment in any loss—we have the richest blessings which God can give us.—*Arch-deacon Farrar*.

## Words of Wisdom.

A precious thing is more precious to us if it has been won by hard work or economy.

The man who follows the advice of another is just as sure to stay behind as he who dares to be independent is to get ahead.

You cannot beautify your own garden merely by destroying your neighbors. To steal the choicest he has is a crime. To destroy only to gratify your sectarianism, ignorance and prejudice, is to demean yourself.

It is not work that kills men, it is worry. Work is healthy; you can hardly put more on a man than he can bear. Worry is the rust on the blade. It is not the revolution that destroys the machinery, but the friction.

New strength can often be gained by changing the surroundings, the companions, the everyday influences, and bringing to bear others to a different and better type.—What cannot be done by direct volition can often be accomplished by indirect means.

He that will not permit his wealth to do any good to others while he is living prevents it from doing any good to himself when he is dead, and by an egotism that is suicidal and has a double edge, cuts himself off from the truest pleasure here and the highest happiness hereafter.

The fruits of the earth do not more obviously require labor and cultivation to prepare them for our use and substance, than our faculties demand instruction and regulation in order to qualify us to become upright and valuable members of society, useful to others, or happy in ourselves.

One great characteristic of holiness is never to be exacting—never to complain. Each complaint drags us down a degree, in our upward course. If you would discern in whom God's spirit dwells, watch that person, and notice whether you ever hear him murmur.

Prayer, like Jonathan's bow, returns not empty. Never was faithful prayer lost at sea. No tradesman trades with such sincerity as the praying saint. Some prayers indeed have a longer voyage than others; but then they return with a richer lading at last.—*Gurnall*.